

The Tragedie

Enter Catesby with Hastings head.

Cat. Heere is the head of that ignoble traitor,
The dangerous and vn suspected Hastings.

Glo. So deare I lou'd the man, that I must weepe:

Iooke him for the plainest harmelesse man,
That breathed vpon this earth a Christian:

Looke ye my Lord Maior:

I made him my booke wherein my soule recorded
The History of all her secret thoughts:

So smooth he daub'd his vice with shew of vertue,
That his apparent open guilt omitted:

I meane his conuersation with Shores wife,

He laid from all arrinder of suspect.

Buc. Well, well, he was the couer'd shelter'd traitor

That euer liu'd, would you haue imagined,

Or almost beleue, were it not by great preservation

We liue to tell it you? the subtile traitor

Had this day plotted in the counsell house,

To murder me and my good Lord Gloucester.

Ma. What had he so?

Glo. What thinke ye, we are Turkes or Infidels,

Or that wee should against the course of Law,

Procede thus rashly to the villaines death,

But that the extreame perrill of the case,

The peace of England, and our persons safety

Inforst vs to this execution?

Ma. Now faire befall you, he deserued his death,

And you my good L. both haue well proceeded,

To warne false traitors from the like attempts:

I neuer lookt for better at his hands,

After he once fell in with Mistris Shore.

Glo. Yet had not we determined he should die,

Vntill your Lordship came to see his death,

Which now the longing hast of these our friends

Some what against our meaning haue preuented,

Because my Lord, we would haue had you heard

The traitor speake, and timorously confesse

The manner, and the purpose of his treason,

That you might well haue signified the same.

of Richard the Third

Vnto the Citizens, who happily may
Misconstrue vs in him, and waile his death.

Ma. My good L. your gracious words
As well as I had seene or heard him speake

And doubt you not right noble Prince
But Ile acquaint your dutious Citizens

With all your iust proceedings in this case.

Glo. And to that end we wish your Lordship
To auoyd the carping censures of the world.

Buc. But since you came too late of this
Yet witnesse what we did intend, and do.

Glo. After, after counsell Buckingham.

The Maior towards Guild-hall hies him

There at your meetest aduantage of time

Inferre the bastardy of Edwards children

Tell them how Edward put to death a Prince

Onely for saying he would make his son

Heire to the Crowne, meaning (indeed)

Which by the signe thereof was tearmed

Moreouer, vrge his hatefull luxury,

And bestiall appetite in change of lust,

Which stretched to their seruants, daungers

Even where his lustfull eye, or sauage heart

Without controule list'd to make his prey.

Nay for a need thus farre come neerer

Tell them, when that my mother went

Or that insatiate Edward, noble Yorke,

My princely father then had warres in

And by iust computation of the time,

Found, that the issue was not his begotten

Which well appeared in his lineaments,

Being nothing like the noble Duke my father

But touch this sparingly as it were farre

Because you know my Lord, my brother

Buc. Feare not my Lord, Ile play the

As if the golden fee for which I pleade

Were for my selfe,

Glo. If you thrive well, bring them to me

Where you shall finde me well accompa